In view of the requests received from various State Governments for increasing the allocation, the Government of India have commissioned the first-ever detailed study of Kerosene demand in the country, through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in December 2004. The final report of NCAER is expected by September, 2005.

Pending the report of NCAER, and Government taking a view thereupon, allocations have been maintained for the year 2005-06 at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocations made during that year to meet emergency/urgent demands of PDS Kerosene in States/ Union Territories. The decision about rationalizing the allocation of PDS Kerosene among States/Union Territories will be taken after examining the NCAER report.

The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have informed that during April and May 2005, on account of limited availability of Kerosene from RIL/MRPL and reduced availability/production at HPCL's Mumbai Refinery, which was under partial shut down/start up condition, a part of Kerosene quota in the State of Maharashtra was carried forward during April to June, 2005. However, with the increased availability of Kerosene from RIL/MRPL and HPCL's Mumbai Refinery as well as imports, the Kerosene quota for Maharashtra was met in full during July, 2005. In order to make kerosene available by domestic refineries for the balance period of 2005-06, an industry meeting was held and it was decided that kerosene will be made available through all the refineries so that the kerosene demand for the balance period of 2005-06 is met in totality by the industry.

Supply of gas to RGTPP

2914. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gas which is presently available at Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Project (RGTPP);

(b) how much additional quantity of gas would still be required to run the plant at full capacity; and

(c) the details of agency which will supply additional gas for this project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Project (RGTPP) requires around 1 to 1.2 MMSCMD of gas to operate at full capacity. At present, 0.75 MMSCMD of gas is available and allocated to this project. However, the average gas drawal by the power plant during April-July 2005 has been around 0.56-0.57 MMSCMD.

Supply of gas to the project is made from the fields of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. The entire gas available from these fields, *i.e.,* 0.75 MMSCMD, has been committed for supply to this project. While, no additional gas is available for supply to the project, it may be noted that for reasons best known to them RGTPP are not drawing it full even the present availability.

Additional gas to NE States

2915. SHRIMATI SYEDAANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Myanmar gas pipeline will run through the North-East without touching Bangladesh and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Bangladesh has forwarded any pre-conditions seeking commercial concessions in lieu of allowing the gas pipeline to run through its country;

(c) if so/the details thereof and the cost effect in building pipe line without touching of Bangladesh and through Bangladesh; and

(d) whether North-East Region will get some additional gas to put an end to the gas crisis in the region?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) In January 2005, Minister (P&NG) participated in a trilateral Ministerial meeting between the Oil Ministers of Bangladesh, Myanmar and India. In pursuance of the trilateral Joint Press Statement released after that meeting, a Techno-commercial